



# Best Management Practices Stream Crossings

*Examples*

Forestry Topic 42

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Bridge

- ◆ Culverts must be properly sized for length and diameter before used for silviculture.
- ◆ Improperly-sized/installed pipes may be required to be removed.
- ◆ Culverts must have adequate fill material above the pipe.
- ◆ Culvert inlet and outlet must be properly armored.
- ◆ Running surface must be non-erodible.
- ◆ Culverts require continued maintenance for proper function.



Ford



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- ◆ Use three (3)-panel steel or wooden bridges to minimize impact at stream crossings.
- ◆ Bridge panels should be placed together with no gaps in between panels.
- ◆ Use brush mats when possible to stabilize soil on approaches.
- ◆ Approaches should have little to no slope.
- ◆ Bumper trees should be utilized to prevent unwanted material from entering stream.
- ◆ Remove panels upon completed use and restore channel to original condition.



Culvert

- ◆ Ford crossings can only be used for truck traffic.
- ◆ Approaches must be flat and stream bottom should have a firm rock base.
- ◆ Approaches must be maintained with clean stone during and after the harvest.

**Any crossing of a stream with a watershed greater than five (5) square miles may require a permit from Virginia Marine Resources and Army Corp of Engineers, please consult VDOF before crossing larger streams.**